

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 09940 060629Z

15

ACTION MC-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-03 DODE-00 EB-07 NSAE-00

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 SP-02 L-03 INR-07 /035 W

----- 094078

R 060550Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5647

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI

SUBJECT: LAWS GOVERNING FIREARM IMPORTATION

REF: STATE 177789

1. GUN IMPORTERS MUST OBTAIN GOL IMPORT LICENSES. FOR SHOTGUN IMPORTS THE LICENSE-SEEKER MUST OBTAIN APPROVAL FROM THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF LICENSE BY THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL ECONOMY AND TRADE, IMPORTS OF ALL OTHER TYPES OF GUNS AND EXPLOSIVES REQUIRE PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AND OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. WHEN APPROVAL IS OBTAINED, IMPORT LICENSE IS ISSUED BY THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL ECONOMY AND TRADE.

2. GOLD DECREE NUMBER 137 OF JUNE 12, 1959 SPECIFIES ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR GUN IMPORT LICENSES. IMPORTERS MUST BE 21 YEARS OLD, MENTALLY SOUND, NOT LEGALLY BARRED FROM CARRYING GUNS, AND NOT GUILTY OF OFFENSES "THREATENING NATIONAL PEACE". ONLY LEBANESE NATIONALS MAY IMPORT MILITARY WEAPONS, BUT ALIENS CAN HOLD LICENSES TO IMPORT OTHER TYPES OF ARMS. INDIVIDUAL APPLICANTS FOR GUN IMPORT LICENSES MUST HAVE CLEAN POLICE RECORDS. IN THE CASE OF CORPORATE IMPORTERS, ALL COMPANY DIRECTORS MUST HAVE CLEAN POLICE RECORDS.

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3. GUN RETAILERS REQUIRE THAT PROSPECTIVE PURCHAS-

ERS OBTAIN A PERMIT FROM THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR INTERNATIONAL SECURITY FORCES AND THE ARMY SECURITY SERVICE, AS WELL AS A CERTIFICATE OF GOOD CONDUCT FROM THE POLICE.

4. GUN IMPORTERS AND/OR RETAILERS ARE REQUIRED TO KEEP A REGISTER IN WHICH ALL IMPORTED AND SOLD WEAPONS ARE RECORDED, TOGETHER WITH THE DATE OF THE BUSINESS TRANSACTION, THE PURCHASER'S NAME AND HIS LICENSE NUMBER.

5. COMMENT: FROM ABOVE, IT CAN BE SEEN THAT MEANS DO EXIST TO DETERMINE CLEARLY WHETHER PROPOSED FIREARM SHIPMENT HAS APPROVAL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.
GODLEY

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